09-06-84-p.5

In the pages which follow we shall examine this ideal camera portraiture, paying careful attention to its uniqueness as a genre of portraiture. We shall also examine in considerable detail the birth and the development of the pictorial aesthetic of this new genre, nineteenth-century camera portraiture. Four distinct stages will be identified. A beginning archaic stage in which the new medium takes its first steps and adjusts to the physical and technical limitations of the medium is followed by a second period, the period of imitation and naturalization, in which the portrait photographers rely heavily on the formal language of the Western European tradition of portraiture for the formal language of their portraits. In the third period, the period of elaboration and complexity, the portrait photographers take the formal language they learned to speak in the second period and develop a formal language characterized by extravagant artificiality. In the fourth period, the period of classicism, the portrait photographers adopt a straightforward formal language characterized by simplicity and clarity.



adolphe Braun, 1811-1877
Countess Castiglione
Photograph
MMA, Stieglitz Bequest, 1949

DWP's dissertation proposal is excellent. It is clearly and very coherently organized and sounds very do-able. I can hardly wait until he finishes it.

The photograph on 09-06-84-p.1 is one that DWP took during Pioneer Days week here at Eckdale. He was doing some "dry runs" for wedding photographs, I'm sure. One morning he asked me to stand in front of the arch and allow him to take my photograph. Not having yet dressed for the day, I decided to conceal my head behind a Chinese fan. The photograph is very very amusing and, at the same time, very "arty" if you will. It does remind me of the well-known photograph of the Countess Castiglione by Braun.

DWP:
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located on Keystone St., Hawley

BRING a photograph (we prefer "head and shoulders" shot) that we can keep. If you are selected, you will be compensated.

S.A.G. members will be seen First

09-06-84-p.6

Carbondale Historical Society and Museum, Inc.
Post Office Box 151, Carbondale, PA 18407

President: S. Robert Powell
First Vice President: John V. Buberniak
Second Vice President: Henry J. Loftus, Jr.
Secretary: Robert J. Tomaine
Treasurer: Howard A. Yepson

09-05-1984

Miss Esther Griswold
229 East 6th
Hutchinson, KS 67501

Dear Miss Griswold,

Thank you for returning the 1984 Griswold Reunion questionnaire, and for your donation to the annual collection. The joint celebration in the Clinton Center Baptist Church on August 26, 1984, was an unqualified success.

I have no information on the McKnight family, and very little on the Crittenden family. I do know that Elizabeth Crittenden (1764-1851) and John Griswold (1758-1843) were married in Sandisfield, MA in October of 1790. Possibly the Crittenden family lived in or near Sandisfield?

I'm sorry that I can not provide you with more information.

Sincerely,
S Robert Powell